

## **City of Beloit Cemeteries: Oakwood and Eastlawn History and Interesting Stories**

These books are an update from previous books put together of cemeteries information, history and history of some of the surrounding area.

The original scrapbook was assembled by Annie S. McLenegan during her volunteer work for Beloit Historical Society in the 1950's. She included numerous articles about early pioneers in the area with Turtleville being one of her main interest. She took many of the black and white pictures included on her pages. She wrote many of newspaper articles from the information she gathered during her research for the Beloit Historical Society.

A study of her pages reveal a person passion about preserving early history of our communities, especially Turtleville and Shopiere. (Eastlawn Cemetery area was part of Turtle Township before being annexed into the City of Beloit.) Ms. McLenegan also wrote several books; one of the books, Pioneer Life in Fox Valley, is considered culturally important. Her work in the Beloit community led one of the elementary schools to be named for her in 1965.

It is only fitting that her original introduction is included in the beginning of these books. Additional information on her life is included in the following pages. Her final resting place is in the McLenegan family lot at Oakwood Cemetery.

Her presence is felt on these early pages. Many stories and facts would have been buried in time if it wasn't for her work.

On upgrading the pages, Ms. McLenegan pages are included as they were in the first scrapbook and are located in Book #1. Moving forward, starting with Book #2, the pages are located in multi-sections. For example, Veteran articles are in a separate section, the Tree Donation Program in another section, Oakwood articles and Eastlawn articles have separate sections. There is also a separate section for articles regarding individual markers. See Table of Content to see the individual sections.

It is an honor to work on these pages in between my own research of the many treasures found at the City of Beloit cemeteries.

My little dog, Bette Davis, accompanies me on most of my research. You will see her in some of my pictures included on the pages of my research.

Remember every grave, whether it has a grave marker or not, has a valuable story to be told.

*---Janet Wagner w/Bette Davis 01/2018*

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